

REMARKS

I. Priority

Applicants respectfully submit that through the amendments to the specification provided above, the priority information at the beginning of the application has been updated to reflect the status of all the files relied upon.

II. Double Patenting

In response to the Examiner's rejection of Claims 21-41 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-52 over U.S. Patent No. 6,677,013, Applicants have submitted herewith a Terminal Disclaimer under 37 CFR 1.321(c). Accordingly, Applicants request the Examiner's double patenting rejection be withdrawn.

III. Claim Objections

In light of the Examiner's objection to Claim 23 for missing a period Applicants have reviewed the pending claims and have been unable to locate any pending claim in which a period is missing. However, Applicants would agree to any Examiner's Amendment that corrects informalities in the pending claims by properly providing a period at the end of any claim. In light of this response, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner's objection to Claim 23 be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request entry of this paper prior to examination of this application on its merits. No new matter has been added by this paper.

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Respectfully submitted,

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